

I N J U R Y &
V I O L E N C E

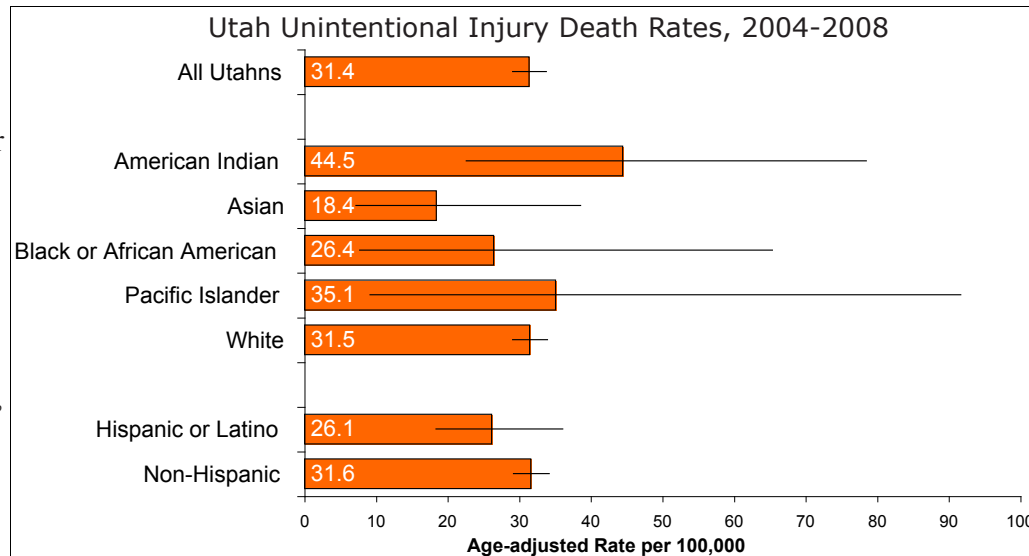


Injury and Violence

Unintentional Injury Deaths

Why Is It Important?

In Utah, unintentional injuries are a leading cause of death and disability. They account for approximately 760 deaths and 9,500 hospitalizations each year. In addition, thousands of less severe injuries are being treated in doctor's offices, clinics, emergency departments, homes, schools, work sites, etc.⁹² Unintentional injury deaths include motor vehicle crashes, falls, suffocation, poisoning, drowning and others.



How Are We Doing?

- Utah's age-adjusted unintentional injury death rate was 31.4 per 100,000 population from 2004 to 2008.
- There were no statistically significant differences in unintentional injury death rates by race and ethnicity.

How Can We Improve?

Most injuries can be prevented by choosing safe behaviors, using safety equipment, and obeying safety laws.⁹² The UDOH, Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) collects and analyzes data to identify injury problems and recommended prevention strategies. VIPP is working with the Utah Department of Public Safety, Primary Children's Medical Center, and Utah's 12 local health departments to promote the use of safety belts, child safety seats, booster seats, and helmets. Student injury data are collected whenever students are injured seriously enough to require them to miss at least one-half day of school or be seen by a health care provider. The data are used to develop reports for the school districts to identify specific injury problems. The Safe Kids Utah Coalition (housed within VIPP) works to prevent unintentional injuries among children by raising community awareness, influencing policies, promoting safety, and establishing private/public partnerships.

Utah Unintentional Injury Deaths, 2004-2008

Race/Ethnicity	Average Annual Deaths	Total Population	Crude Rate/100,000 (95% CI Range)	Age-adjusted Rate* (95% CI Range)	Sig.**
All Utahns	720	2,615,129	27.5 (25.6- 29.6)	31.4 (29.1 - 33.8)	n/a
American Indian/Alaska Native	15	37,002	39.5 (21.9- 65.5)	44.5 (22.6 - 78.5)	
Asian	8	56,736	13.4 (5.6- 26.8)	18.4 (7.2 - 38.6)	
Black or African American	6	33,663	18.4 (6.9- 39.6)	26.4 (7.7 - 65.4)	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	6	21,538	26.9 (9.7- 59.4)	35.1 (9.2 - 91.7)	
White	686	2,466,190	27.8 (25.8- 30.0)	31.5 (29.1 - 34.0)	
Hispanic or Latino	61	294,552	20.6 (15.8- 26.5)	26.1 (18.4 - 36.1)	
Non-Hispanic	659	2,320,577	28.4 (26.3- 30.7)	31.6 (29.2 - 34.2)	

Source: Utah Death Certificate Database. Population Estimates: UDOH Office of Public Health Assessment. Estimates are for 2006 year.

*Age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population

** The age-adjusted rate for each race/ethnic population has been noted when it was significantly higher (↑) or lower (↓) than the state rate.

ICD10 Codes: V01-X59, Y85-Y86

Injury and Violence

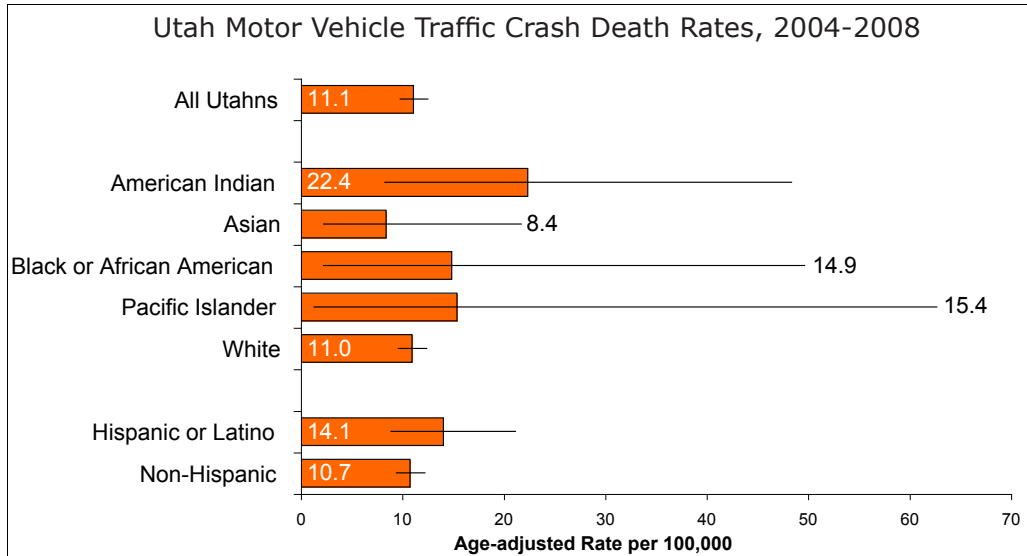
Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Deaths

Why Is It Important?

Motor vehicle crashes are the second leading cause of injury death in Utah, after poisoning.^{94,95}

How Are We Doing?

- Utah's age-adjusted motor vehicle crash death rate was 11.1 per 100,000 population from 2004 to 2008.
- There were no statistically significant differences in motor vehicle traffic crash death rates by race and ethnicity.
- Residents of rural areas have higher motor vehicle crash death rates than those residing in urban areas.⁹⁴
- The Utah Department of Public Safety conducts an annual safety belt observational survey to determine safety belt use for Utah. Overall, safety belt use in Utah for 2007 was 86.8%, a slight decrease from the 2006 high of 88.6%.⁹⁵



How Can We Improve?

Failing to buckle up contributes to more fatalities than any other traffic safety-related behavior.⁹⁵ Other major causes of traffic-related deaths include drowsy, distracted, aggressive, or impaired driving.⁹⁶ The Utah Safety Leadership Team is implementing engineering, enforcement, and education strategies such as the "Zero Fatalities" campaign to reduce motor vehicle crash deaths. The UDOH, Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) is partnering with Zero Fatalities, local health departments, the Utah Teen Traffic Safety Task Force, and other partners to focus on preventing teen motor vehicle-related crashes. VIPP is the lead agency for Safe Kids Utah, preventing child injuries. Inspections and instructions on the proper use of car seats, booster seats, and bicycle helmets are offered routinely to the public. Car seat checkpoints and helmet education and distribution are statewide. State laws promoting safety include

Utah Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Deaths, 2004-2008

Race/Ethnicity	Average Annual Deaths	Total Population	Crude Rate/100,000 (95% CI Range)	Age-adjusted Rate* (95% CI Range)	Sig. **
All Utahns	276	2,615,129	10.5 (9.3- 11.9)	11.1 (9.8- 12.5)	n/a
American Indian/Alaska Native	8	37,002	20.5 (8.6- 41.2)	22.4 (8.3- 48.4)	
Asian	4	56,736	7.8 (2.3- 19.1)	8.4 (2.2- 21.7)	
Black or African American	3	33,663	10.1 (2.4- 27.8)	14.9 (2.2- 49.6)	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	3	21,538	12.1 (2.1- 37.9)	15.4 (1.3- 62.7)	
White	258	2,466,190	10.5 (9.2- 11.8)	11.0 (9.6- 12.4)	
Hispanic or Latino	37	294,552	12.5 (8.8- 17.2)	14.1 (8.9- 21.1)	
Non-Hispanic	239	2,320,577	10.3 (9.0- 11.7)	10.7 (9.4- 12.2)	

Source: Utah Death Certificate Database. Population Estimates: UDOH Office of Public Health Assessment. Estimates are for 2006 year.

*Age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population

** The age-adjusted rate for each race/ethnic population has been noted when it was significantly higher (▲) or lower (▼) than the state rate.

ICD-10 codes: V02-04 [.1-.9], V09.2, V12-14 [.3-.9], V19 [.4-.6], V20-V28 [.3-.9], V29-79 [.4-.9], V80 [.3-.5], V81-82 [.1], V83-86 [.0-.3], V87 [.0-.8], V89.2

graduated driver licensing requirements (since 1998), various laws promoting seat belt use (but no primary seat belt law), primary car seat and booster seat laws, a prohibition on texting and emailing while driving (since 2009), and laws prohibiting driving under the influence.⁹⁴

Injury and Violence

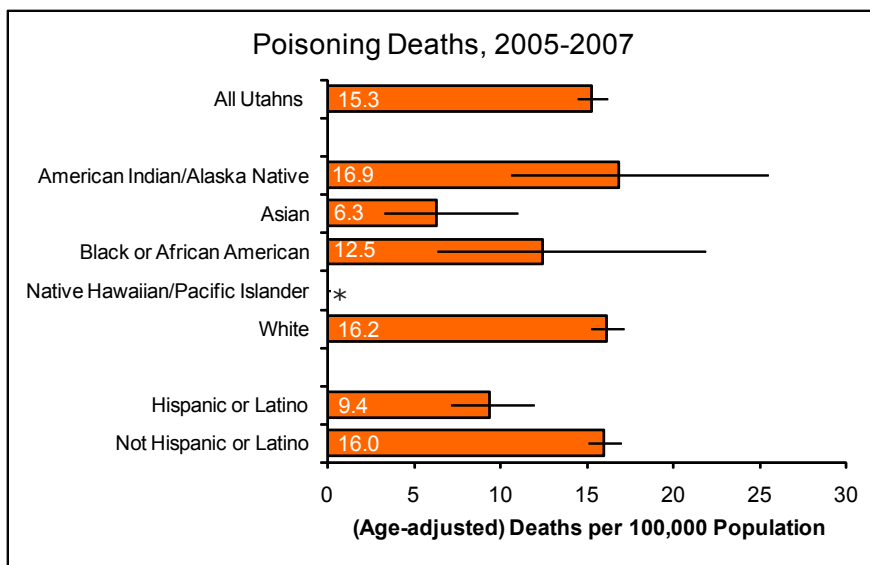
Poisoning Deaths

Why Is It Important?

Since 2002, poisoning deaths have been the leading cause of injury death in Utah, surpassing motor vehicle crashes. For Utahns ages 15-64, poisoning is the overall leading cause of death.⁹³ Poison deaths include deaths caused by drugs (prescription, street, or alcohol), toxins, chemical substances, or gas (e.g., carbon monoxide).

How Are We Doing?

- Utah's age-adjusted death rate from poisoning was 15.3 per 100,000 population from 2005 to 2007.
- This rate is significantly higher than the U.S. poisoning death rate.⁹³
- Utah had a 97.4% increase in poisoning death rates from 2001 to 2007.⁹³
- Asian and Hispanic/Latino Utahns had significantly lower rates of poisoning death than all Utahns.
- More than 89% of all Utah poisoning deaths result from taking medication or other drugs.⁹³
- 82% of prescription-related poisoning deaths involved opioids (Utah Violent Death Reporting System, 2005-2007).
- Fewer than 20% of Utah poisoning deaths are suicides and fewer than 20% are unintentional. In most cases, the intent of the poisoning is unknown.⁹³



How Can We Improve?

From 2007-2009, legislative funding was given to the Utah Department of Health to educate the public and providers about the dangers of prescription opioids, conduct research, and establish guidelines. A media campaign with the slogan "Use Only As Directed" was developed including the website, www.useonlyasdirected.org, with information about treatment, community resources, facts and guidelines about prescription drugs and drug use in Utah. The campaign messages focus on: 1.) when taking medication, never take a prescription medicine not prescribed to you, 2.) don't take more than prescribed, 3.) do not also drink alcohol or take other medications not approved by your doctor, 4.) avoid using narcotic medications to facilitate sleep, and (5.) lock up prescription painkillers and properly dispose of outdated medicine.⁹⁷

Poisoning Deaths, 2005-2007

Race/Ethnicity	Avg Annual # of Deaths	Total Average Population	Crude Rate per 100,000 (95% CI Range)	Age-adjusted Rate** (95% CI Range)	Sig.***
All Utahns	411	2,628,429	15.6 (14.8- 16.5)	15.3 (14.5- 16.2)	n/a
American Indian/Alaska Native	8	46,817	17.1 (10.9- 25.4)	16.9 (10.6- 25.5)	
Asian	4	65,585	6.6 (3.5- 11.3)	6.3 (3.3- 11.0)	↓
Black or African American	5	40,537	12.3 (6.9- 20.3)	12.5 (6.4- 21.9)	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	*	27,371	* (* - *)	* (* - *)	
White	406	2,448,118	16.6 (15.7- 17.6)	16.2 (15.3- 17.2)	
Hispanic or Latino	26	293,288	8.9 (7.0- 11.1)	9.4 (7.2- 12.0)	↓
Non-Hispanic	384	2,335,141	16.4 (15.5- 17.4)	16.0 (15.1- 17.0)	

Source: The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDRS). Population Estimates: UDOH Center for Health Data, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health website: <http://ibis.health.utah.gov/>. Estimates are for average of 2005-2007 years and for race alone or in combination with other races.

*Due to a low frequency, these rates are unstable and have been suppressed.

**Age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population

*** The age-adjusted rate for each race/ethnic population has been noted when it was significantly higher (↑) or lower (↓) than the state rate.

During a poisoning emergency, or for prevention information, Utahns should call the Utah Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

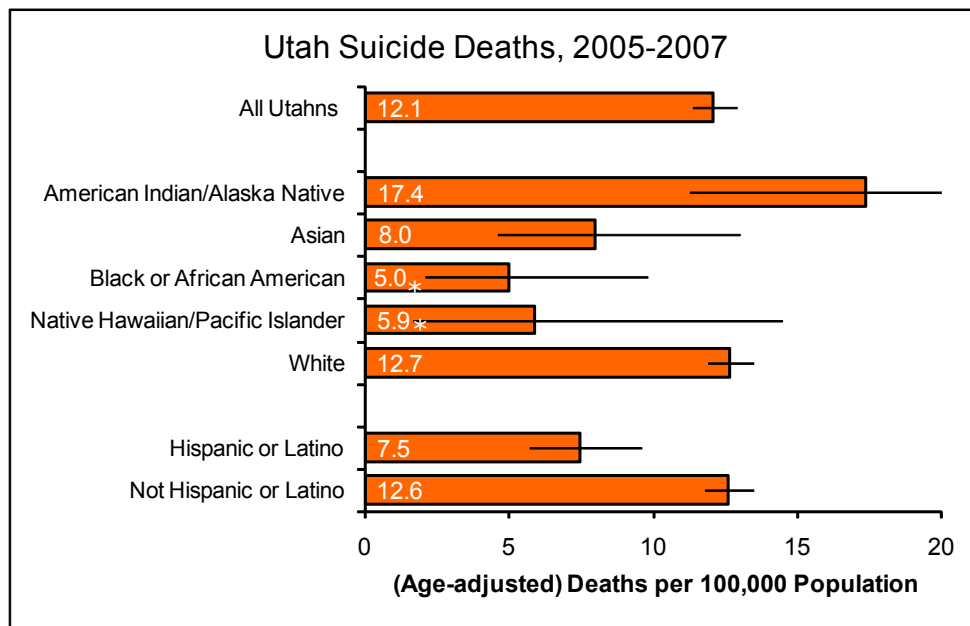
Suicide

Why Is It Important?

Suicide is the leading cause of death for Utahns ages 35 to 44 and the 2nd leading cause of death for Utahns ages 15 to 34. Completed suicides are only the tip of the iceberg; more people are hospitalized or treated in an emergency department for suicide attempts than are fatally injured.⁹⁸

How Are We Doing?

- Utah's age-adjusted death rate from suicide was 12.1 per 100,000 population from 2005 to 2007.
- Utah has one of the highest suicide rates in the U.S.⁹⁸
- Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino Utahns had significantly lower rates of suicide than all Utahns. (See page 78 for depression information.)



How Can We Improve?

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-SUICIDE (784-2433) or 1-800-273-TALK (273-8255) is available to help people with suicidal thoughts and their friends and loved ones. In 2007, the Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health collaborated with many private and government agencies, including UDOH, to create the Utah Suicide Prevention Plan, including such activities as teaching the public about prevention, improving clinical services, reducing stigma associated with seeking help, and providing culturally appropriate services for minority groups.¹³⁰ The UDOH, Violence and Injury Prevention Program implemented The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDR) in 2005, with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to help generate public health data at the national, state, and local levels that is detailed, useful, and timely. UTVDRS is a type of data collection

Utah Suicide Deaths, 2005-2007

Race/Ethnicity	Avg Annual # of Deaths	Total Population	Crude Rate per 100,000 (95% CI Range)	Age-adjusted Rate** (95% CI Range)	Sig.***
All Utahns	358	2,628,429	13.6 (12.8- 14.4)	12.1 (11.4- 12.9)	n/a
American Indian/Alaska Native	9	46,817	19.2 (12.7- 28.0)	17.4 (11.3- 25.5)	
Asian	8	65,585	11.7 (7.4- 17.5)	8.0 (4.6 - 13.0)	
Black or African American	3*	40,537	6.6* (2.8- 13.0)	5.0* (2.1 - 9.8)	↓
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2*	27,371	6.1* (2.0- 14.2)	5.9* (1.7 - 14.5)	
White	348	2,448,118	14.2 (13.4- 15.1)	12.7 (11.9- 13.5)	
Hispanic or Latino	23	293,288	8.0 (6.2- 10.1)	7.5 (5.7 - 9.6)	↓
Non-Hispanic	334	2,335,141	14.3 (13.4- 15.2)	12.6 (11.8- 13.5)	

Source: The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDRS). Population Estimates: UDOH Center for Health Data, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health website: <http://ibis.health.utah.gov/>. Estimates are for average of 2005-2007 years and for race alone or in combination with other races.

* Interpret with caution. Insufficient number of cases to meet UDOH standard for data reliability.

**Age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population

*** The age-adjusted rate for each race/ethnic population has been noted when it was significantly higher (↑) or lower (↓) than the state rate.

and monitoring system that can help experts better understand the public health problem of violence by collecting uniform, statewide, incident-based information regarding suicides and other violent deaths.

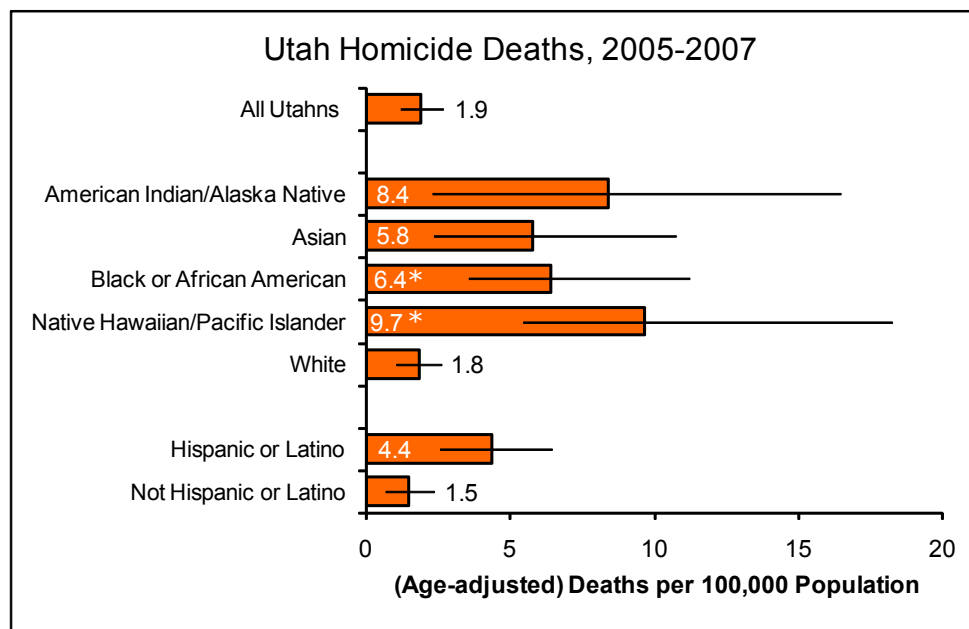
Homicide

Why Is It Important?

Death by homicide takes an enormous toll on the mental and physical well being of family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers of the victim. The trauma, grief, and bereavement experienced by these individuals have long-lasting impacts that affect many aspects of their lives.⁹⁹

How Are We Doing?

- Utah's age-adjusted homicide rate was 1.9 per 100,000 population from 2005 to 2007.
- Utah's homicide rate is lower than the U.S. homicide rate.⁹⁹
- American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and Hispanic/Latino Utahns had higher homicide rates than the statewide rate.
- From 2005 to 2007, there were 56 domestic violence-related homicides. This accounts for 33.7% of the total homicides in Utah during the same time period.
- Males were homicide victims more frequently than females. Of all age groups, infants under age one were the most likely to be victims of homicide.⁹⁹



How Can We Improve?

Because firearms are used in the majority of homicides, gun safety is a crucial first step. When firearms are stored in homes, they should be in a locked location inaccessible to children. Absent a safe location, guns and ammunition should be stored separately. Treatment programs for substance abusers and counseling for child abusers and domestic violence perpetrators could also help to reduce the homicide rate. The UDOH, Violence and Injury Prevention Program implemented The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDRS) in 2005. UTVDRS is a type of data collection and monitoring system that can help experts better

Utah Homicide Deaths, 2005-2007

Race/Ethnicity	Avg Annual # of Deaths	Total Population	Crude Rate per 100,000 (95% CI Range)	Age-adjusted Rate** (95% CI Range)	Sig.***
All Utahns	55	2,628,429	2.1 (1.8- 2.5)	1.9 (1.6 - 2.2)	n/a
American Indian/Alaska Native	5	46,817	10.0 (5.4- 16.7)	8.4 (4.4 - 14.6)	↑
Asian	4	65,585	6.6 (3.5- 11.3)	5.8 (3.0 - 10.0)	↑
Black or African American	3*	40,537	7.4* (3.4- 14.0)	6.4* (2.8 - 13.4)	↑
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	3*	27,371	11.0* (5.0- 20.8)	9.7* (4.2 - 19.0)	↑
White	50	2,448,118	2.0 (1.7- 2.4)	1.8 (1.5 - 2.2)	
Hispanic or Latino	17	293,288	5.8 (4.3- 7.6)	4.4 (3.2 - 5.8)	↑
Non-Hispanic	38	2,335,141	1.6 (1.3- 2.0)	1.5 (1.2 - 1.8)	

Source: The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDRS). Population Estimates: UDOH Center for Health Data, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health website: <http://ibis.health.utah.gov/>. Estimates are for average of 2005-2007 years and for race alone or in combination with other races.

* Interpret with caution. Insufficient number of cases to meet UDOH standard for data reliability.

**Age-adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population

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understand the public health problem of violence. In addition, domestic violence homicides and child abuse homicides are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary committee who makes recommendations on the prevention of family violence homicides.

Injury and Violence

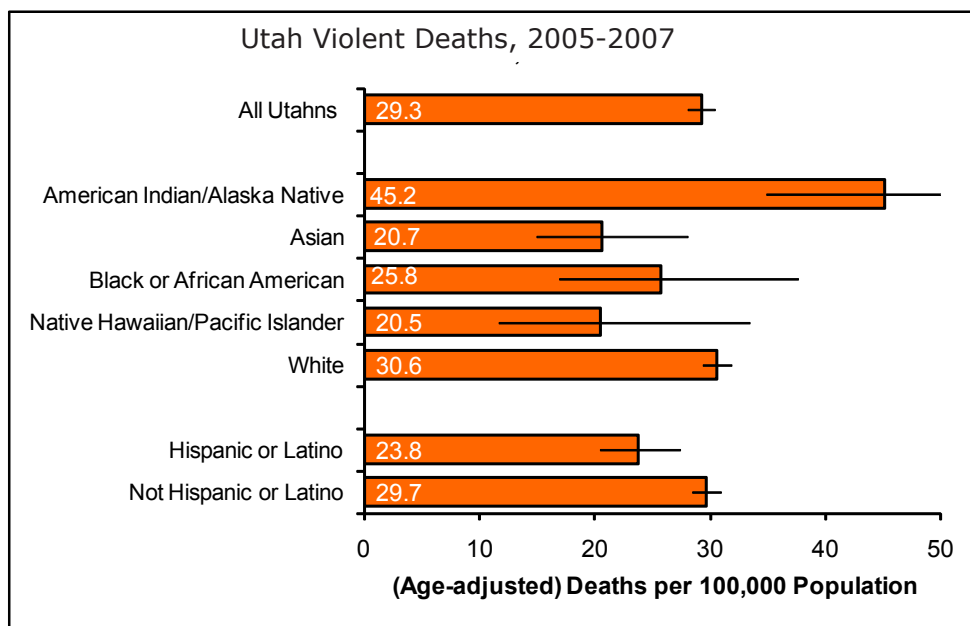
Violent Deaths

Why Is It Important?

Two people die violently every day in Utah. Homicides, suicides, deaths of undetermined intent, firearm-related deaths, deaths due to legal intervention (a subtype of homicide) and deaths due to terrorism are all considered violent deaths.

How Are We Doing?

- Utah's age-adjusted death rate from violence was 29.3 per 100,000 population from 2005 to 2007.
- American Indian/Alaska Native and White Utahns had significantly higher rates of violent death than all Utahns.
- Asian and Hispanic/Latino Utahns had significantly lower rates of violent death than all Utahns.



How Can We Improve?

Free, confidential hotlines include the Domestic Violence Information Line at 1-800-897-LINK (5465), the Rape Recovery Center at 801-467-7273 and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or 1-800-SUICIDE (784-2433). The UDOH Violence and Injury Prevention Program implemented The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDRS) in 2005, with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to help generate public health data at the national, state, and local levels that is detailed, useful, and timely. UTVDRS is a type of data collection and monitoring system that can help us better understand the public health problem of violence. This system collects uniform, statewide, incident-based information regarding violent deaths. Data are collected from death certificates, medical examiner records and police records. Data include circumstances of the event, weapon information, victim and suspect demographics, and the relationship between victims and suspects. In addition, domestic violence homicides and child abuse homicides are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary committee who makes recommendations on the prevention of family violence. homicides.

Utah Violent Deaths, 2005-2007

Race/Ethnicity	Avg Annual # of Deaths	Total Population	Crude Rate per 100,000 (95% CI Range)	Age-adjusted Rate* (95% CI Range)	Sig.**
All Utahns	825	2,628,429	31.4 (30.2- 32.6)	29.3 (28.1- 30.5)	n/a
American Indian/Alaska Native	23	46,817	49.8 (38.9- 63.0)	45.2 (34.9- 57.6)	↑
Asian	16	65,585	24.9 (18.4- 32.9)	20.7 (14.9- 28.1)	↓
Black or African American	11	40,537	27.1 (18.7- 38.1)	25.8 (16.9- 37.6)	
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	6	27,371	21.9 (13.0- 34.6)	20.5 (11.7- 33.4)	
White	805	2,448,118	32.9 (31.6- 34.2)	30.6 (29.4- 31.9)	↑
Hispanic or Latino	74	293,288	25.1 (21.9- 28.7)	23.8 (20.5- 27.4)	↓
Non-Hispanic	749	2,335,141	32.1 (30.7- 33.4)	29.7 (28.5- 31.0)	

Source: The Utah Violent Death Reporting System (UTVDRS). Population Estimates: UDOH Center for Health Data, Indicator-Based Information System for Public Health website: <http://ibis.health.utah.gov/>. Estimates are for average of 2005-2007 years and for race alone or in combination with other races.

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